

February 4, 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Commission Secretary, Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
445 12th Street SW, CY-B402
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Dortch,

RE: Proceeding 03-16

I am writing to you to express our support for increased competition within the long distance market. The Right Place Program believes in the free market principle of competition increasing the value and quality of a product or service to consumers.

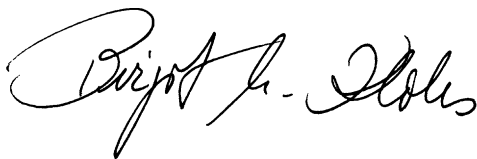
We understand that as a deregulated utility telecommunications can present special challenges in regard to opening competition. However, we believe it is necessary to open markets up as much as possible for the benefit of business and residential consumers.

Congress established a very rigorous process in 1996 that determines how companies can become eligible to enter the long distance market. We understand that once a company is determined to have met the requirements, the regulator then recommends to the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) within 90 days whether the company has met the benchmarks necessary to enter the market.

We know that SBC Michigan has submitted its application to enter the long distance market within the next few months. The Right Place Program is confident that, if allowed to enter the long distance market, SBC Michigan's presence could result in lower prices, better services, and most importantly, a choice.

If I can be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me at 616/771-0324.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Birgit M. Klohs". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "B" and a stylized "K".

Birgit M. Klohs
President